

jamahiriya review

May 1983

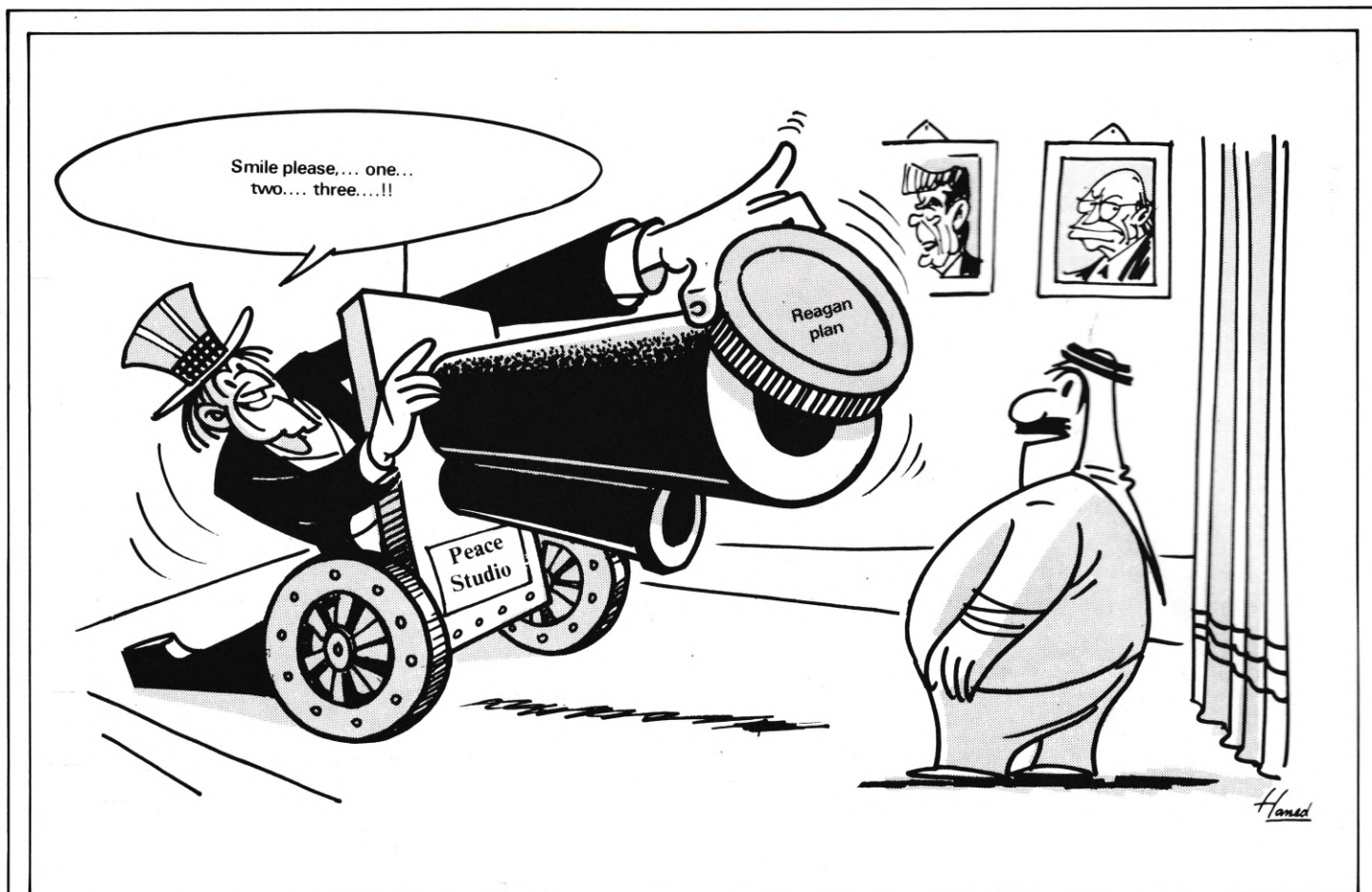
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Inside:
Benghazi
hosts
Green Book
symposium



Special report In this Issue

**West Africa welcomes
Muammer Qadhafi**



The Green March

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jamahiriya review

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No 36

□ **MESSAGE OF THE GREEN BOOK:** More than 1,000 academics, political activists and journalists attended the first international symposium of the Green Book in Benghazi last month. A special correspondent reviews the papers and debates in which the philosophy of the Libyan leader Muammer Qadhafi was examined and its application discussed. Report starts on page 9.

□ **AFRICAN TOUR:** In late April the Libyan leader Muammer Qadhafi embarked on a tour of three West African states. His itinerary covered Nigeria, Benin and Upper Volta, and served to strengthen the Jamahiriya's ties with the region. A review of the tour on page 8 reports on Muammer Qadhafi's meetings with the three African heads of state, and looks at the outcome for their discussions.

□ **UNITY MOVES:** Despite all the efforts of the United States to create discord between the Libyan Jamahiriya and her Arab neighbours in the region, the January 1982 initiative by Muammer Qadhafi to strengthen co-operation between Libya, Tunisia and Algeria has led to a series of important agreements. Ali Azziz examines the gathering momentum of regional unity moves in which Libya is playing a leading role. See page 12.

□ **PALESTINE BETRAYED:** As Arab rulers continue in their efforts to reach an agreement with Israel, Libya has warned against any Arab sell-out to the Zionists. On page 13, Robert Miller examines current Zionist tactics, and warns that the Beigin regime is planning the expulsion of the Arabs from the West Bank.

□ **LIBYA'S HERITAGE:** The remains of the Roman city of Leptis Magna have been added recently to the World Heritage List. On page 14, Dr Alan George reviews the origins and development of one of the Jamahiriya's greatest archaeological treasures.

□ **AGRICULTURAL REVOLUTION:** In the latest of our series of reports on the achievements of the Libyan Revolution, Ali Azziz outlines the development objectives of the Jamahiriya's planners. See page 16.

□ **JAMAHIRIYA MONITOR:** A new feature starts this month on page 19, providing a summary report of major events and developments during the past four weeks in the Libyan Jamahiriya, to provide a source of quick reference for journalists and researchers.

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Another set-back for America in Africa

THE VISIT to Nigeria, Upper Volta and Benin by the Libyan leader Muammer Qadhafi during late April has a significance which goes far beyond the public statements and communiqués. Together with the close alliance which has been forged between the Libyan Jamahiriya and Ghana during the past eighteen months, the visit shows that America's efforts to isolate Libya from the African states has failed. Face to face contact, such as the West African tour offered, is without question the most effective way of challenging Washington's hostility towards Libya. It is important that African leaders hear at first hand exactly how revolutionary Libya views the problems of the continent. It is no less important that African leaders recognise the great range of problems which are common to both the Arab nation and Africa, and draw on the experiences of each other.

The fact that Libya's Muammer Qadhafi and Nigeria's Shehu Shagari represent different political ideologies is not a bad thing; it makes dialogue into a debate, and adds strength to the conclusions which they reach. It offers new hope to the concept of African unity which remains still a dream because the United States and the former colonial powers in Africa have worked hard to create divisions between African states.

President Shagari represents the more conservative trend in African politics when contrasted with the revolutionary nationalism of Colonel Qadhafi. Yet if Africa is to face the urgent social, economic and political problems of the continent, these two forces must reach agreement on a common programme. Qadhafi's visit to Nigeria offers hope that such a programme might still emerge.

Without doubt one of the weak points in Africa, which the western nations are keen to exploit and penetrate, is the continuing instability in Chad. Both the Jamahiriya and Nigeria have common borders with that conflict ridden country. However legitimate was Libya's former presence in Chad, which came about at the request of the recognised government of that country, and ended when the government headed by Goukouni Oueddei requested Libyan troops to leave, it was a period which strained relations between the Jamahiriya and Nigeria.

In its efforts to sabotage the OAU summit last year, the Americans and other western powers, ruthlessly exploited the Libyan peace-keeping role in Chad, presenting it as Libyan expansionism, and claiming it was part of a scheme by Qadhafi to create a Saharan empire. The Libyan evacuation of its peace-keepers from Chad proved just how baseless were the American charges. Both Libya and Nigeria agreed, during the Libyan leader's visit to Lagos, that peace in Chad depends on the sharing of power in government between the different factions. That has always been the policy of the Jamahiriya, and the agreement between Lagos and Tripoli will hopefully advance the day when peace is restored in Chad.

There was also agreement between President Shagari and Colonel Qadhafi over the conflict in the Western Sahara, which has also created tensions and divisions with the OAU.

Earlier in April President Kolingba of the Central African

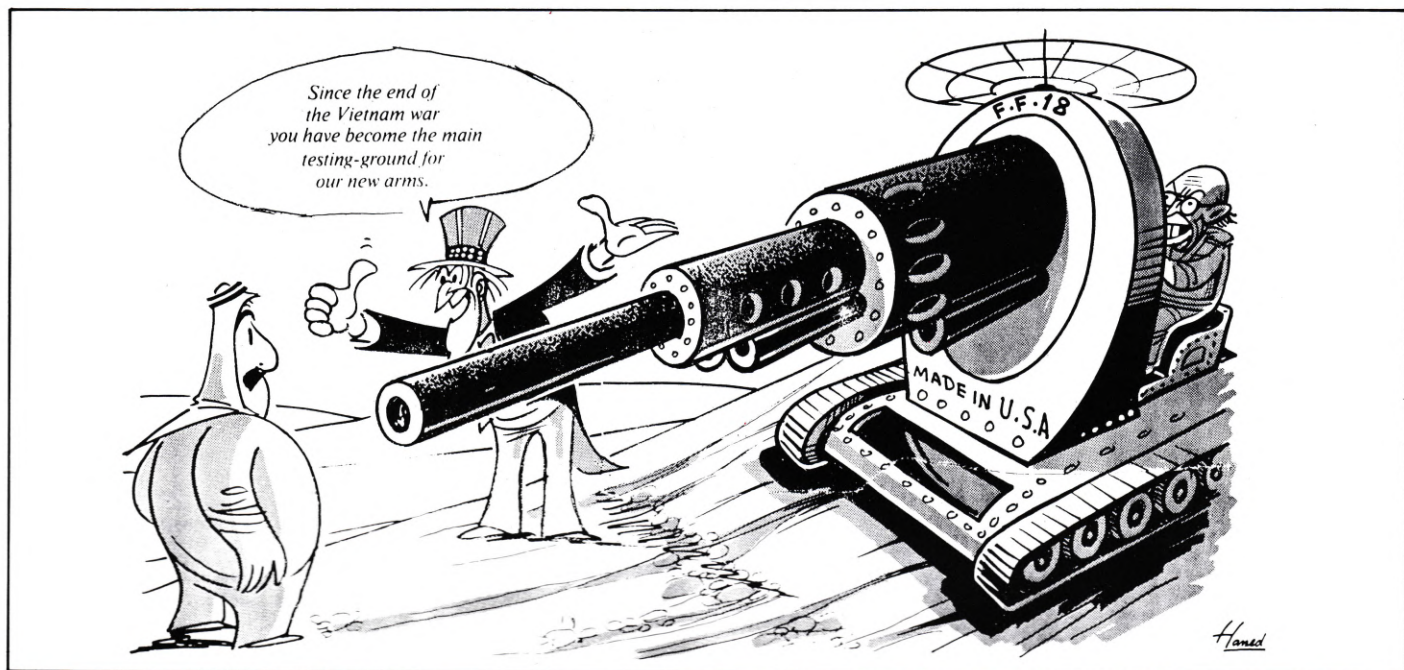
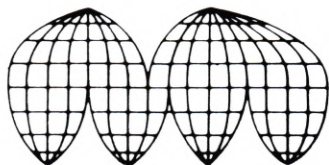
Republic made a visit to the Jamahiriya, which signalled an end to tensions between the two countries. Elsewhere in Africa, other states, such as Uganda, have established closer relations with the Jamahiriya, bringing to an end the tensions which followed the overthrow of the dictator Idi Amin. And in North Africa, American attempts to drive a wedge between Libya and neighbouring Tunisia show no signs of success. The initiative by Muammer Qadhafi to bring the two countries closer together has brought a significant strengthening of relations between Tripoli and Tunis.

Of course, there remain regimes in Africa whose leaders are closer to Washington, and more concerned with American interests, than they are to Africa and African interests. They may still sabotage the continuing efforts to convene a summit meeting of the OAU. But it is patently absurd to suggest, as the Americans argue, that the Libyan Jamahiriya and Muammer Qadhafi are outcasts in Africa. The facts speak for themselves, and no amount of US distortion and manipulation can justify such an accusation.

Similarly on the European front, recent visits to France and West Germany by Libyan delegations, together with visits to the Jamahiriya by Britain's Health Minister and a second delegation headed by Lord Selsdon, have helped to strengthen relations between the Jamahiriya and the major European powers. It is these European states which President Reagan sought to recruit to his campaign against Libya, but they refused to join his proposed economic boycott of the Jamahiriya, and have shown their disapproval of Washington's efforts to destabilise Libya.

In fact, if any political leader is isolated it is President Reagan. In the Arab homeland, his so-called peace plan has been aborted by Washington's continued support for the Zionist regime, and not even Secretary of State Schultz can save it, whatever cosmetic agreements and press statements are declared. In Europe the peace movement has forced governments to distance themselves from the sabre-rattling policies of the Reagan administration, and many European capitals are openly opposed to Washington's policy in Nicaragua and El Salvador. And in Central America, which Reagan arrogantly and patronisingly terms 'his own back yard', the determination of the people of the region to liberate their countries from US manipulation challenges America's claim to be the most powerful nation in the world. In Africa too, with each passing month, recognition continues to grow that American policy and strategy is part of the problem, not part of the solution.

Even in the United States, President Reagan is under siege. A determined Congress is evidently alarmed by the administration's policy in Central America, and refuses to be a party to interventionist policies. The House of Representatives has shown itself more opposed and more outspoken on the 'freeze' issue than some European leaders. And the Catholic Bishops have now added their voice to those who reject Reagan's nuclear policy. Who is President Reagan to accuse anyone of interventionist policies and the claim that other political and revolutionary leaders are isolated?



Brazil incident sparks US propaganda drive

THE UNITED States, currently engaged in a sharp escalation of its military interference in Central and South America, has sought to wring the maximum propaganda from an incident last month in which four Libyan transport planes en route to embattled Nicaragua were found during a stopover in Brazil to contain military equipment, and not the medical supplies cited to the Brazilian authorities by a Libyan aviation official.

Washington has sought to portray the supply of arms to Nicaragua as 'gun-running' and an example of how the Jamahiriya 'exports revolution'. In reality, there was nothing at all sensational about the incident. It was a straightforward case of one sovereign country, Libya, supplying another sovereign country, Nicaragua, with essential defensive equipment — exactly like British or French arms sales in the Arab region.

The Libyan Jamahiriya has repeatedly placed on public record its firm support for the Nicaraguan people in their efforts to maintain their integrity and independence in the face of US threats and provocations. As recently as 28th March, during his

address marking the 13th anniversary of the evacuation of British military bases from Libyan territory, Muammer Qadhafi pledged full support for the Sandinista Government in Managua, and announced that Libya's armed forces were at its disposal in countering the US-backed invasion launched by mercenaries based in Honduras.

As soon as Brazil, which maintains friendly relations with the Jamahiriya, discovered that the four Libyan transport planes were loaded with military supplies, Muammer Qadhafi apologised for the misunderstanding, and expressed regret at the dishonesty of a Libyan civil aviation official in not stating the true contents of the planes.

Lord Selsdon heads UK team to Tripoli

THE PROSPECTS for expanded trade ties between Britain and Libya were the subject of talks in Tripoli last month between Libyan officials and a visiting British delegation from the Committee for Middle East Trade (COMET), a Department of Trade-sponsored body which aims to improve Britain's economic relations with the Arab homeland.

Heading the mission was COMET Chairman Lord Selsdon,

and amongst the officials with whom the British team met were the Secretaries for Heavy Industry and Electricity, the Assistant Secretary for Foreign Liaison, and the Deputy Governor of the Libyan Central Bank.

One of the delegation's members, COMET Director Sinclair Road, told *Jamahiriya Review* that the talks had been 'extremely friendly', and that neither side had been able to identify any obstacle to a further development of the already warm relations between Britain and the Jamahiriya.

British parliamentarians hear Libya's case

IN AN indication of the growing scepticism in western Europe at the bland claims and allegations of the Reagan administration regarding the policies of the Libyan Jamahiriya, twenty British Labour Party MPs on 30th March attended a meeting at the House of Commons with Mr Adem Kuwiri, Secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau in London.

The Libyan envoy briefed the parliamentarians on the Reagan administration's comprehensive economic, political and military threats against the Jamahiriya, saying that, in essence, they were designed to force the Libyan people to accept US tutelage.

Paris talks herald closer ties

RELATIONS BETWEEN Libya and France look set to improve sharply following wide-ranging discussions on bilateral relations between Foreign Liaison Secretary Abdel Ati al Obeidi and French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson.

High on the agenda of the talks, held in Paris on 14th April, was a timetable for the implementation of an economic co-operation agreement initialled on 6th March by the Jamahiriya's Secretary of Planning, Fawzi Shakshuki, and French Trade Minister Michel Jobert (see trade pages).

In the past, Libyan-French relations have at times been strained because of the tendency of Paris to interfere in the affairs of its former colonies in Africa, a policy that runs directly counter to the Jamahiriya's firm commitment to the independence of African countries. During the Paris talks, however, the French Foreign Minister and the Libyan Foreign Liaison Secretary cleared the air by stressing their support for the non-alignment and self determination of African nations.

After his talks with M Cheysson, the Libyan Secretary declared that it was the United States, and not France, which must take the largest share of the blame for undermining the



Goukouni Oueddei (centre): GUNT has ridiculed Habre's claims.

▷ security of regions bordering on Libya, through Washington's efforts to provoke unrest in Chad and its instigation of the subversive policies of the Numeiri regime in Sudan.

He added that the US was using the conflict in Chad 'to gain further access into the African continent and challenge the peace and security of progressive forces there'.

Announcing Mr Obeidi's arrival in France, Paris radio said on 12th April that the visit marked 'a resumption of the political dialogue between France and Libya'.

UN rejects Habre's complaint

THE UNITED Nations Security Council has rejected a complaint lodged by the regime of Hissene Habre in Chad, alleging Libyan interference in the affairs of its southern neighbour. The claims have been ridiculed by the Government of Unity and National Transition (GUNT), a broadly-based coalition of Chadian groups headed by Goukouni Oueddei, which is recognised by the OAU as the legitimate government of Chad.

In March the Habre regime called for an urgent meeting of the Security Council to condemn what it called 'the occupation of a part of Chad territory by Libya and repeated acts of aggression by that country against the people of Chad'.

On 31st March the Security Council ended a second session considering the complaint, but refused to approve a resolution condemning the Jamahiriya.

The Habre regime's allegations were scorned by the GUNT, which in an official statement broadcast on 20th March said that Habre's UN move was merely 'a design to divert attention away from the difficulties faced by Habre's forces in Chad'. It added that the move was 'an attempt to internationalise the Chadian issue'.

Support for Grenada against US threats

THE LIBYAN Jamahiriya has issued a firm call for progressive peoples throughout the world to rally in support of the Caribbean island of Grenada, whose revolutionary government has become a special target for American threats and provocations.

In March, when President Reagan announced his plan to develop space-based weapons systems, he claimed that the step was needed to counter a growing Soviet 'threat'. Amongst the examples of the 'menace', he cited the new international airport under construction in Grenada, which he alleged would be used by Cuban and Soviet armed forces. In fact, Grenada requires the airport for an expansion of its vital tourist trade.

Grenada saw Reagan's allegations as heralding an escalation of the long-running US

campaign to destabilise the Grenadian Revolution, and launched an international campaign to alert public and official opinion to the dangers.

In response, the Jamahiriya's Foreign Liaison Bureau on 26th March issued a strongly-worded communique expressing Libya's 'deep concern' at America's threats. It added that the 'salient feature' of Washington under the Reagan administration was hostility 'against any people that refuses US hegemony'.

Citing a long list of aggressions by the US against Third World nations, including the Jamahiriya, Nicaragua and North Korea, the Foreign Liaison Bureau affirmed that such actions 'deserve strong condemnation by the international community'.

Agreement with Surinam

THE WARM relations between the Jamahiriya and the Latin American country of Surinam were highlighted in March by a visit to Tripoli by Surinamese President Lt Col Daysi Bouterse, which ended with the signature of an important economic and cultural co-operation agreement.

Following talks between Muammer Qadhafi and Lt Col Bouterse, a joint communique was issued affirming the two countries' close views on a wide range of world issues, and expressing their determination to bolster political ties 'and promote their economic and trade co-operation'.

Concrete proposals for boosting relations came in an economic, cultural and trade co-operation agreement concluded on 15th March. The accord was initiated by the Jamahiriya's Economic and Light Industry Secretary Musa Abu Freiwa, and on the Surinamese side by the First Adviser for Political Affairs to the President.

Libya-Uganda Bank to re-open

IMPROVING RELATIONS between the Libyan Jamahiriya and Uganda have been signalled by the appointment of a new Board of Directors for the Libyan Arab (Uganda) Bank for Foreign Trade and Development, whose operations were suspended by Kampala last July following allegations of financial mismanagement.

Kampala radio announced on 21st March that the new Board had been agreed after a series of meetings between Libyan and Ugandan officials, and that a firm date would soon be set for the formal re-opening of the bank.

Inaugurating the new Board of Directors, Ambassador Kamuntu of the Office of Ugandan President Milton Obote, confirmed that the ceremony marked 'a new development in relations between Libya and Uganda', adding: 'In political terms, the reopening of the bank will end speculation that Libya and Uganda are enemies.'

When the bank was closed, its debts totalled about \$6.6 million, but Mr Kamuntu affirmed that the Ugandan Government, as a shareholder, would give full support in the recovery of outstanding sums.

Mr Faraj Salim, one of the bank's Libyan directors, said that the Libyan government had been pleased to note that 'Uganda today is a stable and safe country'. He confirmed that the Uganda-Libyan bank had been mismanaged since 1979, because of a lack of adequately qualified personnel, with the result that lending had exceeded deposits by twenty per cent.

Amongst those attending the ceremony were Mr Leo Kibirango, Governor of the Central Bank of Uganda, Mr Kaizuka, the Chairman of the Uganda Commercial Bank, and Mr Salah Fahumi, the Jamahiriya's Chargé d'Affaires in Kampala.

For some time, relations between Tripoli and Kampala had been complicated by Libya's support ten years ago for the dictator Idi Amin, who was ousted in 1979. The Jamahiriya has since affirmed, however, that this support was based on serious misconceptions about Amin's policies.

In an interview with *Africa Now* magazine in February, Muammer Qadhafi explained: 'It appeared that the Uganda which Idi Amin took over had been full of Israelis during the time of Obote, and Idi Amin had thrown out the Israelis. But he pretended to be a Muslim, and that he was trying to save Muslims about to be liquidated in Uganda. However, under the circumstances, Idi Amin should never have been supported against Obote. In the last analysis, he was a fascist, he had no plans to lead Uganda to recovery, to make it a progressive country. As Obote is a socialist and progressive personality, he should have been our ally, and we should have been his ally.'

New People's Bureau in Botswana

THE JAMAHIRIYA'S embassy in the Botswana capital of Gaborone on 23rd March became the latest Libyan diplomatic mission overseas to be transformed into a people's bureau, administered by a committee of ordinary Libyans, rather than a team of career diplomats, headed by an ambassador.

Friendship treaty agreed in Moscow

A VISIT to Moscow by a high-powered Libyan delegation headed by Major Abdel Salam Jalloud ended on 18th March with the announcement of agreement in principle on a treaty of friendship and co-operation between the Soviet Union and the Libyan Jamahiriya.

The visit reflected the Jamahiriya's firm conviction that the threats posed to Arab independence by an expansionist Israel backed by an equally aggressive America can best be countered by bolstering Arab ties with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. Libya has already concluded a friendship treaty with Czechoslovakia and has agreed in principle to a similar treaty with Poland.

During his two-day visit, Major Jalloud held intensive discussions on a wide range of international issues with Soviet officials, including Premier Nikolai Tikhonov. At the same time, the Jamahiriya's Foreign Liaison Secretary, Abdel Ati al Obeidi, met with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, and the Commander in Chief of the Libyan Armed Forces Brigadier



Staff Major Abdel Salam Jalloud (left) with Soviet Premier Nikolai Tikhonov.

Abu Bakr Yunis Jaber, held discussions with Soviet Defence Minister Dmitry Ustinov.

The communique expressed satisfaction at 'the present state of mutually beneficial Soviet-Libyan economic, scientific, technical and trade co-operation,' and noted that 'prospects for their further development were discussed in detail'. Last year the value of trade between the two countries totalled \$1.87 billion, more than twice the 1981 figure of \$770 million.

\$50,000 for African culture

IN A demonstration of the Libyan Jamahiriya's firm commitment to co-operation amongst African countries, and to the continent's economic and social advance, Tripoli's Ambassador to Ethiopia last month presented a cheque for \$50,000 to the Organisation of African Unity's (OAU) Continental Cultural Organisation, based in Addis Ababa. The funds will be used to promote the advancement of African science and literature.

African countries have frequently voiced concern at their dependence for world news on the western-based international press agencies, which they accuse of persistent bias. In a step to rectify the position, which at the same time represented another indication of African countries' determination to bolster efforts

at co-operation, an experiment in the direct broadcasting of television news, involving eight countries, was held in Algiers in March. Taking part were the Libyan Jamahiriya, Nigeria, Tunisia, Kenya, Egypt, Morocco, Senegal and Algeria.

The West African country of Upper Volta in March became a direct recipient of Libyan assistance for African broadcasting, when a visiting delegation from the Jamahiriya presented the Upper Volta Ministry of Information with ten million CFA francs for the expansion of radio and television services. In addition, Tripoli will provide equipment and technicians.

Pan African Plaza Inaugurated

A HIGH-level Libyan delegation, headed by Utilities Secretary Muhammad Ubeid Shukri, visited the West African country of Liberia in April for the inauguration of the Pan African Plaza building in their capital, Monrovia.

The new structure is owned by the Pan-African Real Estate Corporation, which is a subsidiary of the joint Liberian-Libyan Holding Company.

On his arrival in Liberia at the head of a six-man delegation, Mr Shukri said that the visit was a pointed to the continuing

developing of cordial relations between the Jamahiriya and Liberia.

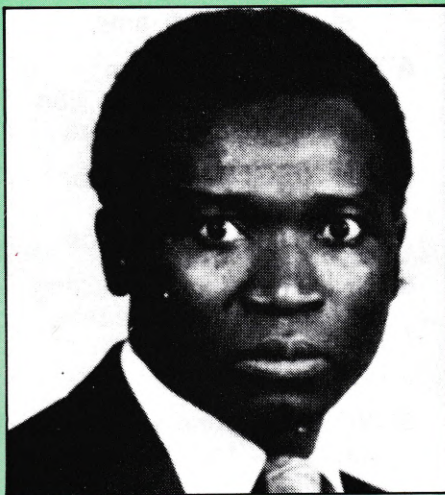
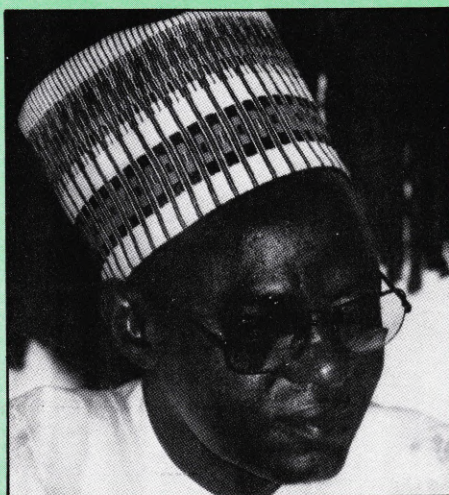
The Chairman of the Libyan Arab Foreign Investment Company (LAFIC), which administers all Tripoli's direct, non-banking investments overseas, was a delegation member, and he described the Pan African Plaza as 'a positive step towards Libya's resolve to promote the aims of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)', and added that ideological differences posed no obstacles to Libya's programme of development assistance abroad.

In an address marking National Day on 11th April, Liberian leader Samuel Doe expressed satisfaction at the completion of the joint project with Libya.

High attendance at Tripoli book fair

THE TEN-day Second International Book Exhibition, which opened in Tripoli on 19th April, was attended by 140 publishing houses from 26 countries, in a doubling of attendance over the first fair, held in 1981.

The Jamahiriya news agency JANA announced that more than five million books in ten languages were on display, and added that during the fair a symposium was held by the Federation of Arab Publishers.



President Shagari of Nigeria (left) and President Ouedraogo of Upper Volta.

West Africa welcomes Muammer Qadhafi

IN HIS first-ever tour of West Africa, Libyan revolutionary leader Muammer Qadhafi paid official visits in April to Nigeria, Benin and Upper Volta, dashing any US hopes that the failure to convene the OAU summit in Tripoli last year had left Libya isolated and exposed in the African continent.

The tour started with Muammer Qadhafi's arrival to a 21-gun salute in Lagos on 25th April, and a welcome by a Nigerian team that included Vice President Dr Alex Akwuemi and other high-ranking officials. The Libyan leader headed a team that included Foreign Liaison Secretary Abdel Ati al Ubeidi, Economy and Light Industry Secretary Musa Abu Freiwa, the Secretary of the Islamic Call Society, Dr Muhammad Ahmad al Sharif, and the Secretary of Tripoli's International Green Book Research Centre, Mr Ahmad Shehata.

Formal talks between Colonel Qadhafi and Nigerian President Shehu Shagari were held on 26th April, during which a number of specialised economic and cultural committees were set up to consider ways of bolstering bilateral co-operation.

The Jamahiriya news agency JANA disclosed that the Nigerian President had given a short address during the meeting, in which he expressed 'full awareness of the strong historic ties that exist amongst the African peoples'. Regretting the success of colonial powers in dividing African peoples from one another, President Shagari affirmed: 'This visit provides the opportunity to discuss fields of co-operation and to re-establish the ties which existed in the past.'

The question of the Chad conflict was a key topic of discussion in Nigeria, and a JANA despatch from Lagos on 28th April quoted the Libyan leader as saying that the two countries had 'agreed that one faction alone could not rule in Chad, and that the civil war there would not end

DEMONSTRATING THE failure of western powers to divide the Libyan people from other African nations, revolutionary leader Muammer Qadhafi has just returned from a highly successful tour of West Africa, which confirmed Tripoli's important role in the quest for just and peaceful resolutions of conflicts within the continent, and in encouraging intra-African co-operation and development.

until other parties shared power in N'Djamena'. Libya had no option but to support 'the Government of Unity and National Transition', headed by Goukouni Oueddei, whose ultimate victory was certain, although this would come 'without Libyan military intervention'.

Muammer Qadhafi's deep concern for the cultural, no less than economic and political, independence of African nations was underlined by a message he placed in the Visitors Book during a tour of Nigeria's National Museum. 'This museum reflects the great culture and civilisation of African people, deeply rooted in history, which colonialists tried to replace by their artificial, imported civilisation,' he wrote, adding that: 'inspired by its great past, Africa will face its bitter present, and will triumph in the future'.

The same theme of colonialist cultural domination was at the heart of an address

by Muammer Qadhafi at the Administrative Staff College in the town of Badagry. On 28th April Lagos Radio said that he had advised the college to alter its curriculum 'to eradicate the colonial mentality in the administrative machinery in Nigeria and in Africa as a whole'. The Libyan leader had added that 'an administrative system attuned to the colonial style will not help in emancipating the African people, since it was designed to meet the interests of the colonial powers'.

During his visit to Benin, from 28th-30th April, Muammer Qadhafi and his delegation held wide-ranging talks with President Kerekou, centring on ways of stepping-up bilateral co-operation and on the problems hindering the smooth running of the OAU. On the conflict in the Western Sahara, Tripoli radio said that the two sides had expressed their support for the just struggle of the Sahrawi people for self determination, and had 'appealed to both Morocco and the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic to engage in frank and direct dialogue in accordance with the resolutions of the OAU, the Non-Aligned Movement and the United Nations'.

The two countries had agreed on the need to strengthen the OAU, and 'had urged member states to take part in the forthcoming summit meeting without any preconditions'.

The Chad conflict was also high on the agenda of the talks in Benin. Tripoli radio said that the Libyan and Benin leaders had 'urged all the parties to the conflict to resolve their differences on the basis of the Lagos Agreement and OAU resolutions'. Muammer Qadhafi returned to the Chad question during a banquet in his honour in Cotonou on 29th April, the Libyan news agency JANA citing him as warning that 'any outside interference in Chad would give Libya the right to intervene too, although he stressed that Tripoli was not contemplating any military intervention'.

The main thrust of Colonel Qadhafi's message, said JANA, was that 'no single group can rule in Chad' and that 'without the participation of all the groups representing the Chad people, the situation would not stabilise'.

The visit to Benin climaxed with the signature of a draft economic, cultural and information co-operation agreement, and a draft accord on the establishment of joint fishing and mining companies.

From Benin, the Libyan delegation went on to Upper Volta, where the Libyan leader was given what JANA described as 'an unparalleled popular and official welcome'. In turn, Muammer Qadhafi declared that the Libyan team had come 'to confirm our alliance with you, and to confirm to you that we are your natural allies'.

In a series of intensive talks with Upper Volta President Ouedraogo, agreement was reached on setting up a co-operation committee, a joint bank and a joint agri-cultural company.



People's democracy is a key feature of the jamahiri system.

Benghazi seminar studies the meaning of freedom

EVER SINCE it was first published in the early 1970s, there has been a growing international interest in Muammer Qadhafi's *Green Book*, in which he set out the principles that underlie the Al Fateh Revolution. Hardly a month passes without the convening in one or other of the world's capitals of a seminar on the Libyan leader's treatise, which spells out a 'third way' between classical Capitalist and Marxist doctrines.

In an effort to deepen international understanding of the philosophical basis of the Al Fateh Revolution, the Jamahiriya last month hosted the first ever International Seminar on the *Green Book*, in which more than one thousand intellectuals, political researchers and representatives of governments and liberation movements gathered at Benghazi's Gar Younis University to debate and elaborate the *Green Book's* message.

One of the most striking aspects of the conference was the confirmation it provided of the very wide appeal of Muammer Qadhafi's thinking, with participants cutting across racial, religious and class divides, and coming both from the industrialised countries of east and west, and from the developing nations of the Third World. There were academics, political leaders — including Flt Lt Jerry Rawlings, Chairman of Ghana's Provisional National Defence Council — government ministers, delegations from all the major Third World liberation movements and representatives of the oppressed negro and Red Indian communities of North America. The universal appeal of the *Green Book* could not have been clearer.

In their papers and discussion, the participants revealed their overriding concern with the meaning of freedom, and the achievement of harmony between personal liberty and the attainment of basic material and spiritual needs. The crucial relationship between freedom and

AMID GROWING international interest in Muammer Qadhafi's philosophy, the first-ever International Seminar on the *Green Book* was last month staged in Benghazi.

A special correspondent reviews the papers and debates, which centred on the concept of freedom, and its dependence on the fulfillment of man's basic needs.

need is a key theme of the *Green Book*. Muammer Qadhafi argues that man cannot be free while his fundamental needs, for example housing and health care, are unfulfilled. Moreover, the *Green Book* asserts that societies should be geared exclusively to meeting the human needs of its members, and not to the generation of profits to benefit a minority.

Freedom

In his paper 'Need and Existence', Nathan Contiro from Venezuela concurred that unfulfilled needs denied man his freedom, and strongly argued the case for citizens to take direct control of the means of fulfilling their needs. 'When the fulfillment of our basic needs is in the control of others, we become vulnerable to exploitation,' he explained. The *Green Book*, he concluded, 'advocates the struggle for a model society which is liberated from need'.

Mr Kwameh Nish from Ghana, in his paper, 'The Crisis of Capitalism in

Developing Countries and the Freedom of the Masses', insisted that the traditional meaning of the word 'freedom' in the so-called liberal western democracies had not developed spontaneously out of the common existence of the people as a whole, but had been defined by the ruling elites. Nevertheless, under different guises, the common denominator of all broadly-based popular struggles throughout history had been the demand for emancipation from the tyranny of need. 'History has affirmed that man has always sought to realise his material well-being as a means of attaining his freedom, and broadening its horizons,' he declared.

There was unanimity amongst conference delegates on the glaring need for a new economic, social and political system that offered a reprieve from both western capitalism and from dogmatic communism. The Libyan researcher Ali Fadheel cited unemployment figures in the West — eleven million in the EEC countries and twelve million in the United States — as a supreme illustration of the exploitation and disregard for man's most basic needs on which capitalism is based.

Another Libyan researcher, Ahmad Ibrahim, concurred, and added that matters were little better in the nominally socialist countries. Revolutions in these lands had set out with the best of intentions to solve the contradictions and exploitation inherent in capitalism, but had ended up replacing the capitalist class with a state apparatus that acted in much the same way. 'The state had replaced the capitalists, and continued the policies of exploitation through wages, rent and trade,' he declared.

The grip of the industrialised countries of the north on the developing nations of the Third World in the southern part of the globe offered another striking illustration of the bankruptcy of existing international economic and social systems,▷

declared Mr Mohammad Ahmad from Sudan, who clearly saw the struggle of the Third World for economic and social advance and political independence as very similar to the fight for dignity and material security of individuals and oppressed groups in the wealthier countries.

Humanitarianism simply did not enter into the relations between the rich and poor countries, he affirmed, and 'development aid' offered by richer countries almost always had political strings attached, 'denying the poorer country its independence and deepening the influence of the aid donor'. The only way to break the vicious circle of relations between rich and poor was for the poor to fall back decisively on their own resources, rejecting the economic embrace of the rich.

Self-reliance

This need for self-reliance is at the very heart of the *Green Book*, and was clearly one of the facets of the Libyan Leader's treatise that conference delegates found most appealing. A special envoy of Zimbabwean Premier Robert Mugabe particularly emphasised those sections of the *Green Book* touching on self-reliance, saying that 'it was very important that Africa should come to terms with this

question if it is to achieve economic growth'.

It was interesting that workers in some countries were reaching the same conclusions as those set out in the *Green Book* as the result of their own experience, and not through having studied the Libyan leader's message, said Ali Fadheel, a researcher from the Jamahiriya. This was particularly evident in the area of economic relationships in the work-place. One of the key slogans of the *Green Book* is 'Partners, not Wage-Workers', which encapsulates the book's call for a system in which workers exercise direct control over their destinies, rather than be at the mercy of their paymasters. Mr Fadheel affirmed that the slogan was not mere rhetoric, but a practical proposition that had universal application. 'In Italy, Belgium and Spain, workers have started translating this principle into reality by occupying factories and running them by themselves,' he declared.

'The 'House belongs to the Occupier' was another of the *Green Book's* dicta on which people were taking direct action, he continued. The seizure of empty houses by homeless families in Britain, Italy and France showed that both the problem, and its solution, were widely

applicable, he said.

Western imperialist powers, headed by the United States, frequently assert that the Jamahiriya poses a grave threat to other peoples. Tripoli, they allege, is a centre for 'international subversion'. What they actually fear, however, is the example to other countries that Libya has provided in facing up to hostile foreign powers intent on undermining the integrity and independence of smaller nations. They also fear the consequences for their own extensive economic and strategic interests of other nations taking Libya as an example, and implementing their own systems of direct democracy and socialist economic relationships, along the lines spelled out in the *Green Book*.

The true nature of the West's fears was spelled out by Mr Abu Bakr Watra, one of the leaders of the Revolution in the west African country of Upper Volta, who praised the Jamahiriya's refusal to compromise its independence, and affirmed that Tripoli had become a target for American provocations because of Washington's apprehension at the growing international support for Libyan policies. Powers intent on subjugating other peoples, he declared, 'know with certainty that the success of the *Green Book's* message will spell their own downfall'.

Warning on 'limited nuclear war in Europe'

IN A wide-ranging address on 11th April to the International Green Book Seminar in Benghazi, Muammer Qadhafi reaffirmed his abhorrence of nuclear weapons, and traced a direct link between sham democracy in the west and the development of US nuclear missiles on European soil against the wishes of the majority of the population. The Libyan leader also presented a critical analysis of the threat to international peace posed by the Reagan administration in Washington.

Contrasting the peaceful methods and intentions of the conference delegates with the aggressive instincts of nuclear war-mongers, Colonel Qadhafi declared: 'Those who acquire the atomic bomb possess the means to destroy civilisation, while those with literary and intellectual abilities possess the means of culture, civilisation and progress.'

Muammer Qadhafi warned of the dangers for Europe of a nuclear confrontation between the superpowers, in which the major protagonists would seek to avoid the destruction of their own cities by using western Europe as their battleground. 'Western Europe will fall victim to the first nuclear war,' he declared, explaining: 'The military preparations in Europe are not for the defence of Europe. America is deceiving the Europeans, so that Europe will become Washington's scapegoat,

suffering appalling destruction instead of America.'

The Libyan leader pointed out that US nuclear missiles had been deployed in Europe at the behest of Europe's governments, not its peoples, demonstrating that democracy in Europe was often a farce. 'Elections, as such, have created this dictatorial situation,' he declared.

Sham

He added: 'There is no democracy in Western Europe or America. When the *Green Book* states that representation is a sham, this is not a personal conclusion; it is a truism. The elected parliaments and governments have failed to represent the people and implement their wishes. Rather, they have achieved the opposite, forcing the people to stage demonstrations against their governments.'

On American foreign policy, Muammer Qadhafi declared: 'America under Reagan has become more arrogant than any other member state of the United Nations. Washington today is arrogant and insolent, and suffers from megalomania.'

Identifying the key problem to be Ronald Reagan's limited abilities as a statesman, the Libyan leader said that the US President: 'does not distinguish between Hollywood and the international political stage'. The result was extreme irrationality by a

country which, as a superpower, had special responsibilities to world peace.

Describing the situation as 'a real tragedy', he said that the whole of mankind yearned for a country like America to follow sane policies, using its enormous resources for the benefit of all peoples.

Muammer Qadhafi stressed that Libya's antagonism towards Washington was not directed against the American people, but against the dangerous and provocative policies of the US administration. An example was the trade war imposed against the Jamahiriya last year. 'By imposing an embargo on imports of Libyan oil, America is in fact preventing the Libyan people from maintaining the pace of their development programme,' he declared.

The boycott was also hitting at western companies participating in Libya's economic and social projects. 'Companies that were carrying out major development schemes, most of them European but also some American firms, have incurred great losses as the result of the US embargo,' Muammer Qadhafi noted.

The Libyan leader firmly denounced America's recently imposed ban on Libyan students studying advanced technological subjects in the United States, saying it was 'dictatorial and hostile to science and knowledge, and an expression of the Reagan administration's backwardness'.

THE LIBYAN Jamahiriya has placed its armed forces at the disposal of the Sandinist government in Nicaragua, and has agreed to a mutual defence pact with North Korea. These were two of the key announcements that came in a speech by Libyan revolutionary leader Muammer Qadhafi to mark the 28th March anniversary of the evacuation of British military bases from Libyan territory.

Speaking at the Gamal Abdul Nasser air force based near Tobruk, which was once the largest RAF base in Libya, Muammer Qadhafi warned that Nicaragua was facing a serious threat following the invasion from Honduras by US-backed former guardsmen of the ousted dictator Anastasio Somoza. Affirming the Jamahiriya's 'full support' for the Sandinistas, Colonel Qadhafi added: 'We announced that all our forces are at the disposal of the Sandinist front in Nicaragua.' North Korea, he continued, has been threatened by extensive US military manoeuvres, designed to destabilise its leftist government, and he revealed that 'the basic people's congresses in Libya have decided on a mutual defence pact with North Korea'.

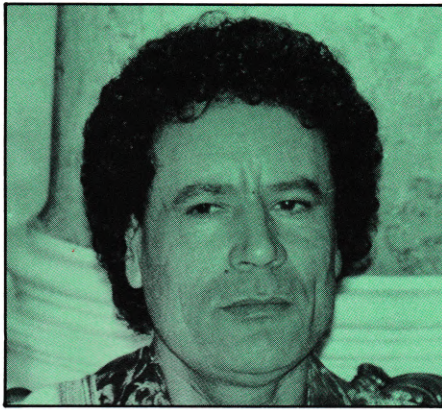
The Libyan Jamahiriya, he noted, had been the repeated target for similar military provocations by the United States, as part of Washington's overall strategy to undermine the few truly independent countries in the Arab homeland. The latest of these dangerous American campaigns against Libya had come only last February, when, on the pretext of countering allegations of Libyan 'threats' to the Numeiri regime in Sudan, the American Sixth Fleet sailed towards Libyan waters and US AWACS spy planes were despatched to Egypt.

The whole episode, explained Muammer Qadhafi, had been a supreme example of the irresponsibility of American foreign policy under the Reagan administration. 'By entering Egypt to spy on Libya, the AWACS planes became a hostile target, and Libya, with the right of self defence, is entitled to tackle such a target. When the US Sixth Fleet comes to this region to threaten Libya, a state of war prevails, and Libya then has the right to take all defensive measures. In this situation, diplomacy is set aside, and force becomes the arbiter.'

In a clear reference to Ronald Reagan's background as a film actor, Muammer Qadhafi affirmed that it was a serious matter when 'Hollywood acting became acting on the international stage, when international affairs are treated in the same way as in Hollywood cinema, with the same mentality, and even by the same person'.

By taking a part in February's contrived 'crisis', Egypt too had been playing 'a dangerous game', and if it persisted on that course, said Colonel Qadhafi, Cairo would be 'going down a very slippery and dangerous road'.

The Libyan leader dismissed allegations that the Jamahiriya had fomented unrest



Practical support for Nicaragua

IN A speech marking the 13th anniversary of the evacuation of British military bases from Libya, Muammer Qadhafi revealed that Tripoli has placed its armed forces at the disposal of the Sandinista Government in Nicaragua, to help counter a US-backed invasion launched from Honduras by mercenaries. In the course of his address, the Libyan leader provided a considered analysis of US-Israeli strategy in the Arab homeland, stressing the continued dangers stemming from Camp David.

in Sudan. The Khartoum regime, he explained, was facing a genuine and authentic 'revolution inside Sudan', and it would not help Numeiri or his backers in America to try and shift responsibility for their own shortcomings by accusing Libya of subversion.

Turning to a careful analysis of the overall strategic balance in the Arab homeland, Muammer Qadhafi warned of the continuing danger posed by Egypt's withdrawal from the battle against Israel. By signing Camp David and the peace treaty with Tel Aviv, the Sadat regime had 'fallen for a big trick'. The Egyptian army had been withdrawn from Sinai 'from the real confrontation, and was redeployed in the Western Desert', along the frontier with Libya, despite the absence of any threat to the Egyptian people from Tripoli.

The Zionist military machine had thus been allowed to turn its attentions to the

north, 'to destroy the Palestine Resistance, the Lebanese resistance and Syria', without risking a conflict with Egypt, explained Colonel Qadhafi. Since the overthrow of the Shah in Tehran, the Arab and Islamic resistance in the north had been bolstered by Iranian revolutionary forces, which 'the Israelis fear a great deal', but if the Iranian forces should be defeated, the Zionists would then turn once more to Egypt and subjugate its people using classic colonial divide and rule tactics.

The Mubarak regime in Cairo had not yet abrogated the Camp David Accords or the peace treaty with the Zionists. Equally, however, it has not displayed the same enthusiasm as the late ruler Sadat for the United States and Israel. Colonel Qadhafi said that the Mubarak regime 'is still at the crossroads', and Libya was still waiting to see whether it should prove to be 'a nationalist regime, and adopt the Arab policy of confronting the real enemy, Israel, or whether it is merely trying to buy time'.

In a firm restatement of Libya's long-standing position on the Palestine question, Muammer Qadhafi affirmed that the Jamahiriya would never extend recognition to the Zionist state, even if Israel and the PLO were to recognise each other. There could be no coexistence between an inherently racist and aggressive state, armed to the teeth, on the one hand, and the Arab victims of its policies, on the other.

Colonel Qadhafi affirmed: 'Under no circumstances shall we commit a crime against the history of the Arab nation, and recognise the existence of a poisoned dagger in the heart of the Arab homeland.'

On Libyan internal affairs, Muammer Qadhafi announced that as of 7th April, 'self-management will begin in all educational institutions'. 7th April, he recalled, is the anniversary of the 1977 students' revolution, when students loyal to the Al Fateh revolution crushed an effort by reactionary elements to create disorder in the universities. The move, explained Muammer Qadhafi, would be 'a stage in escalating the people's authority, and a stage in the development of the *jamahiri* society'.

Jamahiri is the term used to describe the system of direct autonomy practised in revolutionary Libya, in which citizens administer their own affairs directly through local congresses and committees, without any traditional organisations of government.

Muammer Qadhafi also said that it was 'inevitable' that Libyan trade unions and professional associations would move to take over the administration of the Foreign Liaison Bureau, which is responsible for Libya's international relations. The Foreign Liaison Bureau, said Colonel Qadhafi, should be administered by a people's committee comprising the Secretaries of the professional associations and trade unions.

WASHINGTON IS assiduously peddling the line that Libya is woefully isolated in the Arab homeland because of Tripoli's principled refusal to participate in US-orchestrated moves by Arab regimes to negotiate a humiliating sell-out of Palestinian rights. But events in the western part of the region give the lie to the American assertions. In recent weeks the Jamahiriya has concluded important agreements with both Algeria and Tunisia, which have demonstrated the continuing commitment of the three countries to closer co-operation, leading to eventual unity.

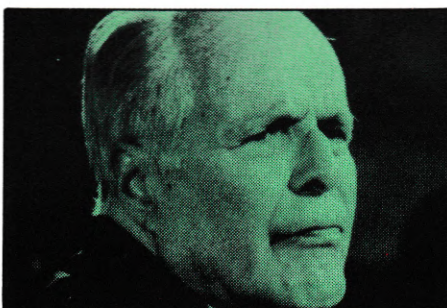
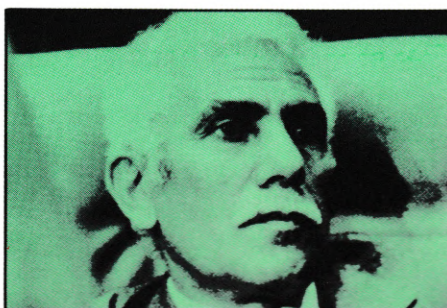
The Libyan-Algerian accord was signed in Algiers in late March, following talks between President Chedli Benjedid and Staff Major Abdesalam Jalloud, and provides for closer co-ordination of the two countries' policies in Africa and the OAU, and for 'intensive efforts to unite the Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front'. The front was formed to counter the US-sponsored Camp David accords, and links Libya, Algeria, the PLO, Syria and Democratic Yemen.

The Libyan-Algerian agreement also reaffirmed the two countries' determination to revive the unionist programme they agreed early last year. Specifically, Algiers and Tripoli have reiterated their intention of holding joint meetings of the Libyan General People's Committee and its equivalent, the Algerian Council of Ministers, and between the Jamahiriya's General People's Congress and the Algerian National People's Assembly. It was also agreed to step up joint sessions between grassroots organisations in the two countries, and between Libya's Movement of Revolutionary Committees and the Algerian FLN party.

Bases

In his speech on 28th March marking the 13th anniversary of the evacuation of British military bases from Libyan soil, Muammer Qadhafi welcomed the agreement, describing it as 'happy news' that was 'a step towards the implementation of the Hassi Messaoud Charter'. Recalling the statement issued in early March by Libya's revolutionary leadership, in which the Jamahiriya insisted that all unionist agreements between Tripoli and other Arab capitals remained fully valid, albeit in need of implementation, the Libyan leader explained that Algeria's reply had taken the form of the new agreement. 'Algeria has announced its intention of resolutely continuing its march towards unity with Libya, in implementation of the Hassi Messaoud Charter,' declared Colonel Qadhafi.

The Charter was a mutual defence pact concluded between Libya and Algeria after meetings on 28th and 29th December 1975 in the southern Algerian town that gave its name to the agreement. A communiqué issued at the time declared: 'Any attack against one of our two revolutions will be considered by the other as a direct attack against itself.'



Top: Benjedid Above: Bourguiba

Tripoli at centre of unity moves

THE REAGAN administration's failure to drive wedges between Libya and other Arab countries has been highlighted by a series of important agreements concluded between the Jamahiriya and its Arab neighbours, within the framework of longer-term unification projects initiated by Tripoli. Ali Aziz reviews the gathering momentum of regional unity moves, in which Libya is playing a leading role.

The two countries confirmed their adherence to the Charter during a visit to Tripoli in February 1976 by the then Algerian President Houari Boumedienne, but with his death at the end of 1978, the treaty effectively went into abeyance.

At the beginning of last year, however, unionist efforts in the western Arab countries were revived after initiatives by Muammer Qadhafi, based on the concept of 'unity of policies'. The Libyan leader spelled out his objectives in his Revolution anniversary speech on 1st September 1981. Efforts at full, immediate

unity in the Arab homeland had failed to bring concrete results, he explained. Instead, he advocated a new, step-by-step approach, in which Arab countries first co-ordinated their domestic and foreign policies. Complete unity remained the ultimate objective, but it would be attained in stages.

In January last year Muammer Qadhafi visited Algeria for talks with President Benjedid and other Algerian officials, and agreement was reached for joint meetings of Libya's General People's Committee and the Algerian cabinet to prepare common policies that would pave the way for unity. The first joint session of the two bodies followed in April 1982, and agreed a range of eminently practical measures to bring the two countries' policies into closer harmony.

Practical measures

On his return from Algiers last January, the Libyan leader visited Tunisia, where agreement was reached to bolster ties between Tripoli and Tunis. Shortly after, a high-powered Joint Commission was set up to examine practical measures for eliminating barriers between the neighbouring countries. The Commission has held a series of sessions, and in July last year it began to prepare the ground for a joint meeting of the Tunisian cabinet and Libya's General People's Committee.

The continuing commitment of the two countries to the unification process has been confirmed by a new labour agreement, signed on 24th March after a meeting of the Joint Commission attended by Libya's Civil Service Secretary Muhammad Abdullah Mabrouk and the Tunisian Minister of Social Affairs, Muhammad Ennaceur.

As part of the overall unification process, visits to Libya by Tunisian ministers, and to Tunis by Libyan officials, have now become routine. The latest came on 21st March when Tunisian Premier Muhammad Mzali held talks in the Libyan capital with the Jamahiriya's Foreign Liaison Secretary Abdelati al Obeidi.

Tunisia and Algeria, meanwhile, have moved to complement the unity moves under way between each of them and Tripoli. In March, Presidents Bourghouiba and Benjedid signed a comprehensive, twenty-year Treaty of Brotherhood and Concord.

Libya's efforts to promote Arab unity have not been confined to the western part of the Arab region. Tripoli is engaged in similar 'unity of policies' projects with Syria and Democratic Yemen, and the latest sign of progress came on 29th March when an economic co-operation agreement was initiated in Aden, covering co-ordination of policies in the fields of planning, industry, fishing, agriculture, education, labour and training. The accord, signed by Libyan Planning Secretary Fawzi Shakshuki and Yemeni Minister of Industry Abdel Kader Bajamal, also called for increased co-operation in joint ventures, trade and oil exploration.

AS ARAB regimes prepare for yet another summit meeting to discuss what concessions to Israel might induce the Zionist state to relinquish the occupied Palestinian territories of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the Libyan Jamahiriya has warned that the exercise will be futile, since Israel has no intention of giving up any occupied Arab land, far less allow the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. Events on the ground bear out the Libyan interpretation. In a bid to expel the Palestinian Arabs and make way for an influx of foreign settlers, the Zionists have now resorted to mass poisoning of schoolchildren.

The announcement of a possible new Arab summit came after the apparent failure of talks between PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and Jordan's King Hussein, centering on the 'Peace plan' proposed by President Reagan on 1st September last year. The plan fell far short of meeting the internationally-endorsed rights of the Palestinian people to return to their homeland and exercise self-determination in a sovereign state of their own. Reagan's proposals ignored completely the rights of those Arabs expelled by the Zionists from their homes and property in the areas of Palestine occupied in 1948. The Reagan plan merely called for an Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and for Palestinian 'self government in association with Jordan' in the two territories.

In a commentary on 15th April, Tripoli radio warned that another Arab summit would be useless, noting that only two days previously the Zionists had reiterated that 'no matter what the Arab rulers did, and no matter how many concessions they made, it would not give up the Bank and the Strip, and would not allow the establishment of a Palestinian state, except in the ruins of Hussein's Kingdom on the eastern bank of the Jordan.' The reference to Jordan related to Israeli assertions that any Palestinian state should be set up not in Palestine, but in Jordan, since a majority of the kingdom's residents are Palestinian refugees.

Aggression

As if the Zionists' past history of aggression and expansionism were not enough to convince the Arab nation that the Jamahiriya's stance is a matter of plain realism, Israel has now resorted to mass poisoning of Palestinian children in the 1967 occupied territories, in a thinly-veiled bid to prompt a new exodus of Arabs as the prelude to another influx of Zionist settlers.

News of the first poison attacks, in a girls' school in Jenin, came on 27th March, when it was disclosed that more than 350 girls had been hospitalised with symptoms that included nausea, vomiting, partial blindness and blueness of fingers and toes.

At first, the Zionist military authorities made no effort to deny that poison had been used. Israeli radio even announced

Arabs warned: 'The Zionists do not want peace'

IN THE Israeli-occupied West Bank, a terror campaign has been unleashed, aimed at expelling the Arab population to make way for Zionist settlers. Yet while West Bank Palestinians endure mass poisoning, curfews, tear gas and bullets, Arab rulers are preparing for yet another futile round of summit talks. Robert Miller reviews the Jamahiriya's warning on the Zionist state's intentions, and looks at Israeli tactics on the ground in Palestine.

that laboratory analysis had confirmed the toxicity of a yellow powder found in the Jenin school.

But as the casualties mounted to over one thousand, following a fresh wave of poison attacks in Palestinian girls' schools in Hebron, fifty miles south of Jenin, the Zionists launched a carefully orchestrated propaganda campaign designed to suggest that the girls were suffering from nothing more serious than 'mass hysteria'.

In an effort to exclude independent observers who could contradict them, the Zionists forbade Palestinian doctors from discussing the poisonings with journalists, while reporters trying to reach the affected areas were turned back at Israeli roadblocks. The Zionists even arrested an American CBS television crew who had managed to penetrate the Israeli cordon and were filming casualties in a Nablus hospital.

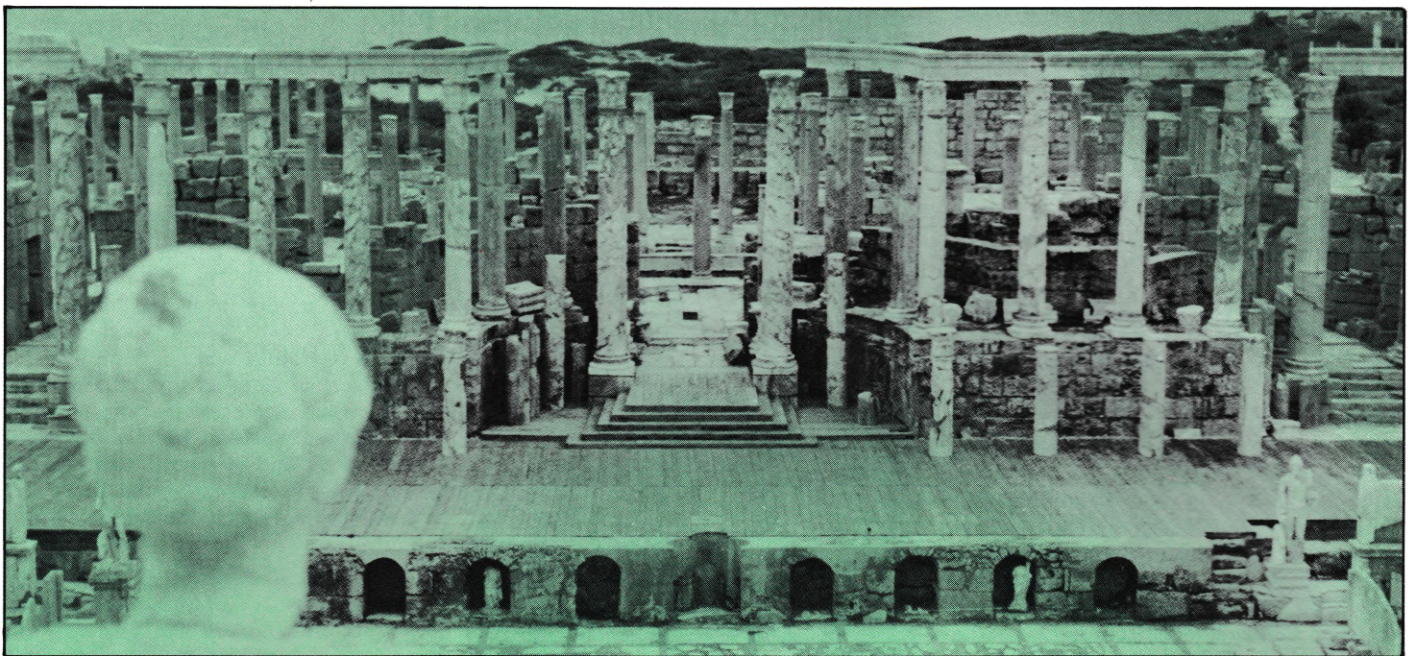
Crisis

While Arab rulers prepare for another round of consultations far from the scene of the crisis, Palestinians on the West Bank itself are withstanding the latest Zionist onslaught on their security by the only means at their disposal — strikes, street demonstrations, and limited armed action. On 4th April, as Palestinian anger was reaching its height, Christopher Walker wrote in the *Times*: 'As protesters took to the streets in at least four West Bank towns, two Israeli soldiers were wounded in Nablus when a hand grenade was thrown at them as they guarded the hospital where scores of the affected girls were being treated with intravenous glucose drips and oxygen masks. In Tulkarem, angry Palestinian youths ransacked an Israeli-owned bank, smashing windows and furniture.'

The Zionists responded with their standard methods, attacking the civilian protesters with batons and tear gas and firing live bullets into the crowds. Tight curfews were clamped on seven Palestinian towns, in a collective punishment of the type outlawed under international conventions governing occupied territories.

When the Zionists invaded Lebanon last year, one of their aims was to break the civilian resistance to the West Bank occupation by smashing the PLO, to whom Arabs in the 1967 occupied territories have looked for leadership. The invasion failed in that objective, and Palestinians fear that the sixteen-year-old occupation may now be moving to a climax as the Zionists turn instead to depopulating the West Bank by open terror tactics. The poisonings were only the latest in an escalating series of attacks by Zionists against Palestinians. In recent weeks Israeli settlers have gone on shooting sprees in Arab towns, fired at Palestinian vehicles, and placed bombs in public places. One of these devices exploded outside a mosque in central Hebron, wounding two Arabs. In addition, in March, a heavily armed group of Zionists provocatively attempted to set up a colony near the Dome of the Rock in occupied Jerusalem — Islam's third holiest shrine.

It is customary for the western media to discount such actions as the work of 'extremists'. But there are clear signs that the terror campaign against West Bankers enjoys support in the highest levels of the Zionist regime. Last month, Meir Cohen, deputy speaker of the Israeli parliament, declared: 'We had the means in 1967 to make sure that two or three hundred thousand (Arabs) would move to the other side (across the Jordan river), as was done in Lod, Ramle and Galilee in 1948, but we made a calamitous mistake. Things could have been simpler today: no Palestine problem, no stones, no demonstrations. We could have brought in 100,000 settlers, and there would have been no trouble.'



One of the major cities of the Roman Empire, Leptis Magna.

Leptis Magna becomes a World Heritage site

THE INTERNATIONAL significance of the Libyan Jamahiriya's three outstanding archaeological sites, the ruined classical cities of Sabratha, Cyrene and Leptis Magna, was confirmed last December when UNESCO's World Heritage Committee approved their inclusion in the World Heritage List. UNESCO defines sites on the list as having 'cultural and natural properties considered to be of outstanding universal value and, by virtue of this quality, especially worth safeguarding for future generations'.

The World Heritage Committee administers the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, which was adopted by the UNESCO General Conference in 1972 and came into effect in 1975. By the end of 1981, 61 UN member states, including Libya, had ratified or accepted the Convention.

As part of its duties, the World Heritage Committee is charged with identifying sites worthy of inclusion in the World Heritage List, making those sites better-known internationally, and providing technical assistance for their protection and preservation.

Leptis Magna, on the coast 120 kilometres east of Tripoli, near the town of Homs, was one of the major cities of the Roman Empire, but its origins were Phoenician. In the first and second millennia BC the Phoenicians, based in what is today Lebanon, developed a thriving maritime trade throughout the Mediterranean. They were attracted to Libya by the potential for trans-Saharan trade with the interior of Africa.

The western Libyan coast, however, has few natural harbours. From the Gulf

TO MARK last December's addition to the ruined classical city of Leptis Magna to the World Heritage List, this special report by Dr Alan George reviews the origins and development of one of the Jamahiriya's greatest archaeological treasures.

of Gabes in Tunisia to the region of Benghazi, the littoral, comprises 1,000 kilometres of low, sandy beaches, exposed to the sea. The only points offering natural protection to trading vessels were the sites of Leptis Magna, Oea (modern Tripoli) and Sabratha.

Trading posts

Here, the Phoenicians established trading posts. At first, these were occupied only seasonally, but as the trans-Saharan trade expanded they developed into permanent settlements. At the same time, there was a rapid expansion of agriculture in the fertile lowlands behind the three colonies. In time, the small Phoenician settlements grew into major cities, collectively known by the Greek name Tripolis, from which the modern Libyan capital derives its name.

The origin of the name *Leptis* is obscure, but the title *Magna* ('great' or 'major') was added by the Romans to distinguish the town from another settlement, Leptis Minor, which was also founded by

Phoenician merchants, near Sousse in modern Tunisia.

Roman dominance in North Africa dated from the destruction of the Phoenician city of Carthage (near present-day Tunis) in 146 BC, at the end of the Third Punic War, although it was only in the middle of the first century BC that western Libya, and with it the Tripolis, fell under imperial Roman rule.

Under the Romans, Leptis Magna's role as the centre of a rich agricultural zone overtook its significance as a terminus for trans-Saharan caravans. The cultivation of olive trees proved so successful in the inland hills that the city became one of Africa's largest centres for olive oil production. During the reign of Julius Caesar, the city was required to pay an annual tribute of an astonishing 1,067,000 litres of olive oil. At the same time, the region to the south of the hills, in the semi-desert, developed as one of Europe's most important granaries.

Leptis Magna's fortunes under Rome were closely linked with those of the Empire as a whole. In periods of strong cultural government and economic prosperity, Leptis flourished. But political instability in Rome or economic recession in the Empire had a particularly adverse impact on such cities as Leptis, on the fringes of the Roman world.

The first three hundred years of Roman rule brought continuous expansion for Leptis Magna, with the most rapid growth in the first to third centuries AD. The city reached its apogee during the reign of Emperor Septimius Severus, from 193 to 211, who is thought to have been a native of the town. Magnificent public buildings and monuments were erected,

a port was built, and the Roman garrisons guarding the agricultural hinterland from the attacks of Saharan tribesmen were strengthened.

Assassination

The city's golden years ended with the assassination of the last Severan emperor in 235, which heralded fifty years of political chaos and economic stagnation in the empire. There was a brief interlude of strong government in Rome during the reigns of Diocletian (284-337), but Rome's long-term disintegration subsequently continued unabated. In North Africa the process was exacerbated by increasingly destructive incursions of Saharan tribes into the coastal plains.

During the Severan period, Leptis Magna had overstretched its resources, and this was an additional potent factor in its subsequent decline. In his submission on the city to the World Heritage Committee, Dr Abdullah Shaiboub, President of the Jamahiriya's Department of Antiquities, explained: 'The magnificence of the new Leptis Magna has been obtained at the cost of stability. The town's treasures had been strained to the limit to acquire this new appearance of grandeur. Such intense financial exhaustion now overtook Leptis as to carry it rapidly downhill to the point where it could never again attain the level of prosperity which had once belonged to it.'

In the closing years of Roman hegemony in North Africa, Leptis Magna and its region were in an advanced state of decay. The desert sands had encroached onto the farmlands, and many of the sophisticated irrigation systems had fallen into disrepair. The process of decay was accelerated by a major earthquake in 365 which extensively damaged the city.

The Vandals ousted the Romans from the Tripoli region in about 455, but their period of rule, until 534, did nothing to save Leptis Magna. The city's walls were demolished by the new rulers to prevent resistance to their hegemony, and this made the town even more vulnerable to attacks from desert tribesmen, which resumed during the second half of the fifth century.

The city was granted a short reprieve with the expulsion of the Vandals by the Byzantines in 534. Buildings were restored, there was some limited new construction, particularly of churches, and new walls were built. But the city was only a shadow of its former self. The new walls enclosed only the port and a fraction of the area covered by the city during its Severan heyday. The Byzantine period did not check the long-term decline of Leptis Magna, and at the time of the Arab conquest of Libya in 642-643, the former city had shrunk to little more than a village, although it was still large enough to merit an Arab garrison.

Blow

The final blow came in the eleventh century, when the Bani Hillal and Bani

'A site of prime international importance'

IN HIS submission on Leptis Magna to the World Heritage Committee, Dr Abdullah Shaiboub, President of the Jamahiriya's Department of Antiquities, outlined the international significance of the ruined city, and reviewed its place in the wider archaeology of north west Libya. It was, he stressed, a site 'of prime importance'.

During the whole of the first millennium BC, he said, Tripolitania was profoundly influenced by the Phoenicians and their successors the Carthaginians who were established in what is today Tunisia. 'Even when they became an integral part of the Roman Empire, the three celebrated markets, Leptis Magna, Sabratha and Oea, and the other permanent settlements in Tripolitania retained and developed the economic methods, municipal traditions, religion and language of their neighbours, who were also their founders.'

'Rediscovered by archaeology,' Dr Shaiboub continued, 'these markets and settlements provide, to a greater extent than Carthage, which was razed to the ground (by the Romans), evidence of prime importance on the Phoenician and Punic civilisations.'

Archaeological excavations at Leptis Magna, he said, had aimed at 'uncovering sectors from various epochs, so as to present a picture of the historical evolution of the town'. For example, traces of the Phoenician-Punic city have been found in the port and in the burial grounds extending several kilometres towards the south and west. The first Imperial period is represented mainly by the Theatre of Augustus, the Arch of Trajan, and the great thermal bath complex built under Hadrian. The reign of Septimius Severus is represented by the new Forum and its basilica, the monumental shrine, the circus, the amphitheatre and the Arch of Severus. Finally, there are the new walls and the two churches dating from the Byzantine period.

Dr Shaiboub stressed that 'controls, ie. islands of unexcavated ground, have been left untouched intentionally to permit a subsequent check of the stratum formation and of the composition of the archaeological environment'.

The immediate task at Leptis Magna, he said, was 'to continue the restoration programme, started some ten years ago under the supervision of the Department of Antiquities, on the Arch of Severus and the amphitheatre, and to implement the Italo-Libyan project announced in 1967 for the reconstitution of the ancient Forum'.

Dr Shaiboub stressed that the cities of Leptis Magna, Oea and Sabratha were only the three most important out of about one hundred Punico-Roman and Byzantine settlements in the region, which included fortified farms, olive presses, dams, temples, churches and forts, running along the coast, or along the courses of tracks that linked Cyrenaica to Tunisia and joined the coast to the southern desert region of Fezzan.

In addition, numerous burial grounds had been discovered in north west Libya. Major examples were those at Zanzour, Gargaresh, En Ngila, Ben Ghathir, Leptis Magna and Misrata, which had yielded 'thousands of objects'.

The rate of archaeological discoveries, he added, had accelerated in recent years as the Jamahiriya's ambitious development programme has gathered pace. Excavations for construction work frequently revealed buried monuments and sites, of which examples were the villas around Zliten, Leptis Magna, Tarhuna, Sabratha, Tajoura and Silin.

Dr Shaiboub concluded by affirming that the most urgent archaeological task in Tripolitania was the training of research workers and the organisation of central collections to allow comparative studies.

Suleim tribes, moving west from Egypt, conquered the whole of North Africa, laying waste to the centres of its settled civilisation. Leptis Magna was abandoned to the desert sands.

In the ensuing centuries Leptis suffered the same fate as many other ruined cities in the Arab homeland. It was pillaged for building stone and plundered for its artistic treasures. Leptis Magna suffered particularly badly in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Many marble columns and statues, for example, were shipped to France by the French Consul Lemaire, to be used in the construction of the Versailles Palace near Paris. A collection of its statues and columns were transferred to England and

installed at Windsor Palace. Another collection went to the Louvre.

At the same time, however, and particularly during the nineteenth century, the ancient city was emerging from its obscurity, as western travellers returned home and told of their discoveries. Scientific excavation of Leptis Magna began in 1913, shortly after the Italian occupation of Libya, and, with a brief interval during the Second World War, has continued ever since.

The original grid-iron street plan has been exposed, and many of the most impressive buildings have been restored. The extensive ruins of Leptis Magna now rank amongst the major tourist and cultural sites of the Jamahiriya.



Agricultural development will be concentrated in the coastal regions.

Top priority for food production

REVOLUTIONARY LIBYA knows that political independence depends on economic freedom, and the central thrust of all the Jamahiriya's development plans has been the attainment of higher levels of self-sufficiency. Nothing is more basic than self-sufficiency in food. As Muammer Qadhafi has said: 'There is no independence for a nation that eats from overseas.' Moreover, the agriculture sector has a vital role to play in the Jamahiriya's industrialisation programme, providing the raw materials for a wide range of food processing and other light industries.

In the early years of Libya's oil industry development, during the closing days of the monarchy, thousands of Libyan farmers abandoned their land in pursuit of regular and well-paid employment in the oilfields and in construction jobs in the rapidly growing cities. Agricultural output slumped, while food imports rocketed to make good the deficit.

Since the Revolution, Libyan planners have sought to reverse this disastrous trend. Billions of dollars have been invested in agricultural development and land reclamation programmes. The Jamahiriya's \$62.5 billion 1981-85 development plan alone allocates \$10.1 billion to agriculture, and the sector is set to expand at an annual average rate of 7.4 per cent during the plan period. Libya is aiming at food self-sufficiency by the turn of the century, and the plan will bring this target substantially closer.

The plan calls for agricultural development efforts to be concentrated in the coastal regions, which are near the major markets in the cities, and also more suitable for agriculture because of their higher rainfall. It is expected that by 1985 the area under irrigated farming will have expanded to 220,000 hectares, compared with 182,000 hectares in 1980. The area under rainfed farming will be boosted, while 1.3 million hectares will be added to the area of pasture land.

SINCE THE 1969 Revolution, Libyan planners have energetically sought to boost agricultural output in a bid to enhance the Jamahiriya's self-sufficiency in food. Ali Aziz outlines Libya's agricultural development objectives, and reviews a series of visits by Muammer Qadhafi to agricultural projects, in which the Libyan leader demonstrated his personal commitment to increased efficiency and productivity

The Jamahiriya has been engaged in a major programme of afforestation, designed to halt the encroachment of the desert onto agricultural land and to enhance the water-retaining capacity of soils so

as to reduce erosion. In the 1981-85 period, 165,405 hectares will be afforested, and wind breaks will be planted on a further 63,443 hectares. The number of palm trees in the Jamahiriya is set to rise from 4.6 billion in 1980 to 5.2 billion in 1985, and the number of fruit trees will rise from 3.1 billion to 4.1 billion.

Progress since the launch of the plan has generally been impressive, as last year's agricultural production figures indicate (see table). But as might be expected in the implementation of any major country-wide agricultural development programme, difficulties have been encountered, particularly in the spheres of marketing and productivity. At last year's meeting in Tripoli of the General People's Congress, strong criticism was voiced at bottlenecks in the marketing of agricultural produce. At this year's GPC meeting in February, one of the solutions agreed was the establishment in all the Jamahiriya's towns of open-air markets for agricultural products, which should do much to ease the situation for consumers.

The continuing concern with expanding agricultural productivity has been highlighted in recent weeks by a series of visits by revolutionary leader Muammer Qadhafi to a number of important agricultural schemes, where he reviewed developments and stressed the need for higher agricultural output.

On 4th March Colonel Qadhafi inspected the progress of land reclamation work in the areas of Abu Qrawa, Garib, Bayada, Mirad and Mas'ud, all in the Jebel Akhdar highland zone in north eastern Libya. One week later, the Libyan leader toured the agricultural projects of Zamzam, Bu Grein, Al Hesha and Al Mardoum in the north west. The Jamahiriya news agency JANA said that he urged the projects' directors to solve farmers' immediate problems, pending longer term measures 'to eliminate difficulties that might face the farmers and hinder them from achieving the required level of productivity'.

On 17th March Colonel Qadhafi visited a series of agricultural and land development projects in Libya's western mountain zone, where an important fruit tree planting programme is under way. Amongst the schemes he visited were Baksha, Abu Ghilan and Zintan.

The Jebel Akhdar region is, however, the major focus of Libya's afforestation programme, and on 27th January JANA announced that volunteers from all over the Jamahiriya would be arriving soon in the region to start a fruit tree planting campaign. 1.7 million trees would be planted on an area of 4,297 hectares, and 120 separate fences erected to protect the seedlings. In March, Muammer Qadhafi, accompanied by Mr Abu Zaid Omar Dourda, Secretary for Land Reclamation and Agrarian Reform, toured the Jebel Akhdar to inspect progress, and JANA said that at the time of the visit, 3,000 hectares of trees had already been planted.

Agricultural production, first nine months of 1982

Wheat	108,598 tonnes
Barley	89,500 tonnes
Oats	3,380 tonnes
Vegetables	171,580 tonnes
Fruits	32,920 tonnes
Sheep	22,272 head
Cattle	5,670 head
Chickens	1,927,162 birds
Chicks	11,038,879 birds
Turkeys	25,308 birds

Source: Secretariat for Agrarian Reform and Land Reclamation.

New Libyan venture in Italy

THE JAMAHIRIYA is negotiating a 1-2 per cent stake in Italy's state telecommunications group, Societe Finanziaria Telefonica (Stet) the new York daily *Journal of Commerce* has disclosed, although Stet and the state holding company that controls it, Istituto per la Ricostruzione Industriale (IRI) have refused to confirm or deny the report.

The *Journal of Commerce* said that the Libyan agency involved was the Libyan Arab Foreign Bank (LAFB), but it is more likely to be the Libyan Arab Foreign Investment Company (LAFIC), formed in 1981 with a capital of \$1.7 billion to administer all Libya's non-banking, direct investments abroad. Previously the LAFB, the overseas arm of the Central Bank of Libya, handled such investments but now restricts its activities to the banking sphere.

Italy has been an important focus for LAFIC's ventures. The largest holding, inherited from LAFB, is an 18 per cent stake in the Fiat industrial conglomerate, acquired by Libya in 1977. In late 1981 it was disclosed that negotiations were nearing completion on a \$400 million takeover by LAFIC of the Italian steel and sugar group Maria Maraldi, which was declared bankrupt in 1980.

Other LAFIC holdings include hotels in Malta, Tunisia, Egypt and Morocco.

British exports to Libya at £261 million

STATISTICS JUST released by the Arab-British Chamber of Commerce show that British exports to the Jamahiriya last year totalled £261 million, while Libya sales to Britain, mainly comprising oil, stood at £342 million.

The British export figure was down by half on the £529 million of 1981, reflecting the slowing down of the Jamahiriya's development programme as a result of the world oil glut. Libya nevertheless remained Britain's seventh most important export market in the Arab homeland. Almost all Britain's exports comprised machinery, transport equipment and other manufactured goods.

Last year's trade figures confirm the vital importance of the Arab region for the British economy. Britain enjoyed a trade surplus with the region totalling £2.3 billion, compared with a

deficit with the rest of the world of £1.4 billion. Eighty per cent of British exports to the Arab homeland last year were manufactured goods, compared with sixty per cent of exports to the rest of the world.

Railway sidings for industrial plants

THE HUNGARIAN firm Tesco/Uvater is preparing designs for railway sidings at the Zuwara and Abu Kammash industrial complexes on the coast west of Tripoli. The sidings will be linked to the 170 kilometre railway line extending from the Libyan capital to Ras Jadir on the Tunisian frontier.

Tesco/Uvater was already involved in the Jamahiriya's railway development programme. In 1981 the firm won a \$10 million construction supervision contract for the Tripoli-Ras Jadir link. Construction of the line has not yet started, although the West German firm Philip Holzmann received a letter of intent last year for the \$473 construction contract.

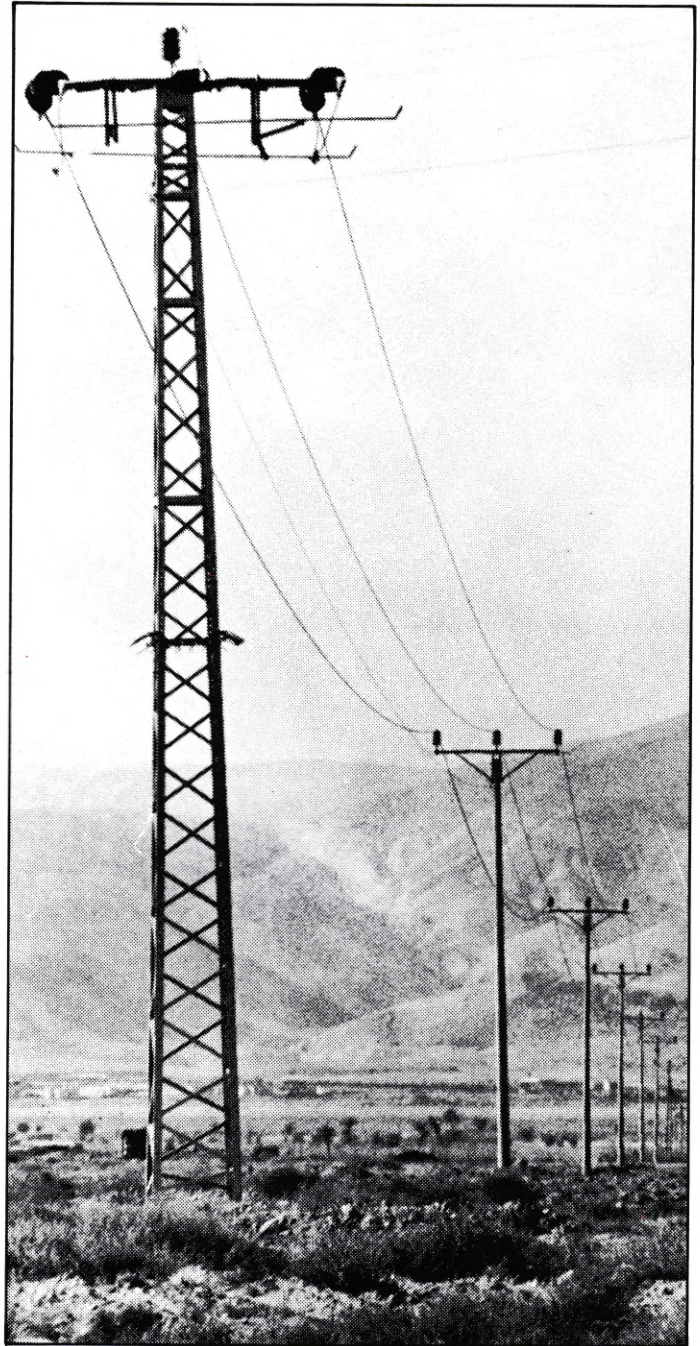
The new sidings at Zuwara will serve a planned 120,000 tonnes per annum aluminium smelter and a 175,000 tonnes per annum petroleum coke plant. Total construction costs of the new industrial complex will be \$1.2 billion. Zuwara will also have a major port, which is being designed by Britain's Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners.

The railway sidings at Abu Kammash will serve a mammoth chemical works, opened in 1980. Built by West Germany's Salgitter Industrie, the plant's annual capacity is 50,000 tonnes of plastics, 49,000 tonnes of caustic soda, 40,000 tonnes of table salt, 6,000 tonnes of liquid chlorine, 8,000 tonnes of hydrochloric acid and 8,090 tonnes of sodium hypochlorite solution.

Investment at Abu Kammash totalled LD350 million, a figure that includes the cost of a nearby housing estate, school, post office, market and mosque.

The Tripoli-Tunisia rail link is the first in the Jamahiriya's railway system. The second stage entails a 200 kilometre line between Tripoli and Misrata, which has been designed by Britain's Mott, Hay & Anderson. The third, and longest, link will stretch from Misrata, on the coast, to the southern desert town of Sebha, a distance of 922 kilometres. It will be used to transport iron ore from the south to the Steel works now being built at Misrata.

After these western railway



A country-wide electricity grid is a key project in the development plan.

lines have been completed, work will start on a major 1,300 kilometre coastal line between Misrata and the Egyptian frontier. Construction costs might be as high as \$40 million.

Electricity grid expands

WORK IS eighty per cent complete on a new 81 kilometre electricity transmission line in the Ghadames municipality in north west Libya, the Jamahiriya news agency JANA has announced. The new line extends 16 kilometres between Nalut and Awlad Mahmoud, a further 18 kilometres to Teji Kabaw, 32

kilometres to Josh Teji and 15 kilometres to Gezaya Wazin.

JANA added that another electricity line, stretching for six kilometres across the frontier with Tunisia into the Tatawin province of Libya's western neighbour, is due for completion this year.

A key project in Libya's \$62.5 billion 1981-85 development plan is the establishment of a country-wide electricity grid by linking the five existing independent grids in the regions of Tripoli, Benghazi, Sebha, Kufra and Sarir. The plan allocates \$6.6 billion to the electricity sector as a whole, and provides for an increase in the Jamahiriya's generating capacity from 4,800 MW in 1980 to 9,400 MW in 1985.

Engineers learn computing

MORE THAN 150 Libyan engineers attended a special two-week course in computing at Tripoli's Al Fateh University in March, highlighting the Jamahiriya's determination to employ the most modern skills in its economic development programme. The course, supervised by Al Fateh University lecturers, included lessons in programming and computing technology in engineering.

The first session of the course was attended by Mr Muhammad Manqush, Libya's Housing Secretary, who stressed the importance of enhancing the skills of Libyan engineers, and affirmed the potential for the application of computer technology in the Jamahiriya.

New shipping route

THE JAMAHIRIYA's development programme has brought a surge of imports to meet the requirements of projects throughout the country, while rising living standards have entailed sharp rises in imports of a wide range of consumer goods. Almost all Libya's imports are shipped by sea, and the rising volumes have brought a corresponding expansion in the Jamahiriya's international sea links. Since March last year, when the Americans imposed a trade boycott on Libya, Tripoli's economic ties with Europe have grown significantly, and in response a number of new shipping routes have been established.

The latest new route was inaugurated in March, when it was announced that France's Compagnie Maritime d'Affrètement (CMA) had added sailings to Tripoli to its services from Britain. Containers destined for Libya are shipped to Marseilles for container/roll-on, roll-off transhipment to Tripoli.

More assistance for Ghana

IN A further demonstration of the fraternal ties between the Libyan Jamahiriya and Ghana, Mr Ebow Tawiah, a member of the west African country's ruling Provisional National Defence Council, on 2nd March took formal delivery of a further consignment of relief aid from Tripoli.

The 35-tonne shipment comprised medicines, flour, olive oil, rice and blankets, and was aimed at helping Ghana both to withstand the impact of the

international capitalist recession, and to meet the challenge of integrating the thousands of its citizens who were repatriated from Nigeria in February.

It was only the latest in a series of relief shipments from Tripoli to Accra which started after the New Year's Eve 1981 Revolution in which Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings ousted the corrupt regime of Hilla Lemann.

On taking delivery of the relief shipment, Mr Tawiah stressed the close relations between the Jamahiriya and Ghana, saying that they were 'a shining example' for other African nations.

Agreements strengthen links with Europe

TWO IMPORTANT trade co-operation agreements signed with France and Sweden have underlined Tripoli's determination to bolster economic relations with western Europe, in order to counter the trade embargo imposed against the Jamahiriya by President Reagan a year ago.

On 11th March the joint Libyan Arab-French Commission ended a six-day meeting in Paris by signing an agreement on joint economic, scientific and technical co-operation, and it was announced that negotiations would start soon on increasing Libyan oil sales to France, which at 2.3 million tonnes last year were already 55 per cent up on 1981.

The Libyan team on the Joint Commission was headed by Planning Secretary Fawzi Shakshuki. The French delegation was led by Foreign Trade Minister Michael Jobert.

Concurrently with the Paris talks, a meeting of the Libyan Arab-Swedish Joint Committee was under way in Stockholm, with the two sides headed by Heavy Industry Secretary Omar Muntasser and Swedish Commerce Minister Mats Hellstrom. On 10th March the talks concluded with the signature of a co-operation agreement calling for closer ties in the areas of industrial and agricultural development, and the field of health care.

Tripoli-Tehran air link

DIRECT, REGULAR air services between Tripoli and Tehran will be one of the fruits of a civil aviation agreement signed in the Libyan capital on 7th March, following a visit to the Jamahiriya by an Iranian team headed by Mohammed Ali Nuriyan, the Islamic Republic's highest civil

aviation official. The agreement also provides for the setting up of airline offices in the two capitals, and for the use for the new air link of each country's maintenance and air traffic control facilities. A Tehran radio report added that the accord in addition called for Iran to train Libyan aviation technicians.

\$2.2 million contract for water purification

THE AL Fateh Revolution has consistently sought to improve the health standards of the Libyan people, and a key part of the overall effort has been to assure adequate supplies of safe, clean water. According to the World Bank, 87 per cent of Libyans had access to safe water by 1974, and the entire population is one of the fastest-growing in the world, however, and public utilities must expand to keep pace.

The continuing emphasis on environmental health was highlighted last month by the award to the British Metito engineering firm of a \$2.2 million contract to supply water chlorination equipment. The contract, awarded by the Secretariat for Municipalities, covers the supply, installation and maintenance of equipment, and training of Libyan technicians.

Metito's contract is the largest ever awarded by the Jamahiriya for chlorination equipment, but it is only the first part of a much bigger package. Metito has a letter of intent for the supply of a further \$5 million of its equipment.

Turkey benefits from Libyan development

THE JAMAHIRIYA is convinced that one of the few ways of breaking the economic and political grip of the industrialised countries on the developing nations of the Third World is to increase trade relations between the developing countries, and to this end, Libya has given high priority to offering Third World countries opportunities to benefit from participation in its \$62.5 billion development programme.

One country that has seized the opportunities is Turkey, aided by an agreement under which Libya gives priority to Turkish firms when awarding developing contracts.

Speaking on Ankara radio on

3rd March, following a visit to Libya, Turkish Foreign Minister Ilter Turkman reviewed the scale of his country's involvement in the Jamahiriya, and stressed both countries' determination to bolster co-operation.

Turkish firms held more contracts in Libya than companies from any other country, he said, and nearly 100,000 Turkish workers were engaged on projects in the Jamahiriya. Turkish exports to Libya in 1981 totalled nearly \$500 million, he noted, and added that in return, Turkey purchased some \$1 million worth of Libyan oil each year.

Mr Turkmen said that while in Libya, he had stressed 'our satisfaction at the high level reached by our economic relations, and the importance we attach to the protection of that level'. He added: 'I saw that Muammer Qadhafi and Libyan officials sincerely shared this view.'

To underline the Turkish Foreign Minister's message, it was announced on 8th April that the Turkish firm Dogus Insaat has a \$120 million contract to design and build roads in Derna province in the north east of the Jamahiriya. The award provides for 136 kilometres of farm roads for the Secretariat for Agrarian Reform and Land Reclamation, and 139 kilometres of inter-city roads, for the Communications and Marine Transport Secretariat. Completion is due in 1985.

OAPEC urges enhanced oil recovery methods

IN ITS latest bulletin, the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) urges a wider application of enhanced oil recovery methods, noting that at present they are used only in two Arab oilfields, the Jamahiriya's Intissar D field and Algeria's Hassi Massaoud field.

Under natural underground reservoir pressures, only a restricted proportion of an oilfield's total deposits can be extracted. If pressures are increased, however, by pumping water or gas into an oilfield, this proportion can be raised significantly.

Without any such artificial increases in pressure, about one quarter of Arab oilfield reserves can be raised, and, on this basis, and including cumulative production, total Arab oil reserves are estimated at 460 billion barrels. Using enhanced recovery techniques, however, 45 per cent of deposits can be extracted, bringing the Arab homeland's oil reserves to 660 billion barrels.

International

□ **15th March:** Libya and Surinam sign an agreement on co-operation in the economic, cultural and trade sectors.

□ **16th March:** Libya concludes a co-operation agreement with Romania, covering communications, shipping and air transport.

□ **19th March:** Following talks in Moscow between Abdesalam Jalloud and top Soviet officials, it is announced that the Soviet Union and the Jamahiriya have agreed in principle to sign a Friendship Treaty.

□ **20th March:** The Libyan Arab-Mauritian Friendship Society holds a rally in Muammer Qadhafi Square in the Indian Ocean island state's capital of Port Louis, attended by the Mauritian Minister of Social Security. The Tripoli Folklore Troupe gave a performance of Libyan music and dances.

□ **20th March:** A Ghanaian delegation, including the Provisional National Defence Council's Special Adviser, Captain Kojo Tsikata, its Secretary for Finance and Economic Planning, Kwesi Botchway, and its Secretary for Fuel and Power, Appiah Korang, arrives in Tripoli for talks with Libyan officials.

□ **20th March:** Greek Deputy Foreign Minister Carlos Papioias meets with the Secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau in Athens, and affirms that his Government will never allow Greek territory to be used in a United States attack on the Jamahiriya.

□ **21st March:** The Assistant Secretary General of Tripoli's International Green Book Research Centre confers with a visiting Cypriot Socialist Youth delegation.

□ **24th March:** Sydney Sekeramayi, Minister of State in the Zimbabwe Prime Minister's Office, is welcomed to Tripoli by Brigadier Abu Bakr Younis Jaber, Commander in Chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces.

□ **2nd April:** Specialists from the Cultural Section at Libya's Administrative Committee for Revolutionary Information hold talks in Tripoli with a visiting delegation from North Korea, headed by the Asian country's Deputy Minister of Culture. Talks centred on boosting Libyan-North Korean cultural ties.

□ **5th April:** The Jamahiriya news agency JANA announces that Muammer Qadhafi has sent a message to the International Conference for Solidarity with the African Front Line States, under way in Lisbon, pledging Libya's

full support for the struggle against racism in southern Africa.

□ **7th April:** It is disclosed that the Jamahiriya's Health Secretary Murad Ali Lanki, has visited Malta for talks with Premier Dom Mintoff. Malta's Minister of Health, Dr Vincent Moran, recently visited the Jamahiriya.

□ **11th April:** Foreign Liaison Bureau Secretary Abdel Ati al Obeidi starts three days of talks in Paris with French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson and Foreign Aid Minister Christian Nucci, marking a further strengthening of Libya's ties with western Europe.

□ **18th April:** Central and Latin American liberation movements linked in the Tripoli-based International Platform to Resist Imperialism, Zionism, Racism and Reaction, meet in the Libyan capital to co-ordinate moves for the defence of the Nicaraguan Government, which is currently facing a US-backed invasion by mercenaries based in Honduras.

Arab Homeland

□ **22nd March:** The Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Congress concludes its first session of 1983. The Tripoli-based Congress links Arab nationalist individual and non-governmental organisations throughout the Arab homeland.

□ **25th March:** Tripoli radio announces that Muammer Qadhafi has held talks with Mohammed Abdelaziz, President of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic and Secretary-General of the Polisario Front.

□ **2nd April:** The Executive Bureau of the Arab Housing and Construction Ministers' Council starts its 13th Session in Tripoli with an inaugural address by the Jamahiriya's Housing Secretary, Mr Muhammad Ahmad al Manqush.

□ **3rd April:** Foreign Liaison Secretary Abdel Ati al Obeidi holds talks with Dr Abdul Muhsin Zalzal, Arab League Assistant Secretary for Economic Affairs. Discussions included ways of bolstering Afro-Arab co-operation.

□ **7th April:** Tunisian Information Minister Tahar Belkhdja meets with the Jamahiriya's envoy in Tunis for talks on co-operation in information.

□ **8th April:** Muammer Qadhafi holds talks in Tripoli with Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid es Sebsi, who acquainted the Libyan leader with the terms of the twenty-year Treaty of Friendship and Concord just signed between Tunisia and Algeria.

Jamahiriya

□ **21st March:** The Libyan people select the Secretariats for their Basic People's Congresses, in the second stage of the selection process. Secretariats at locality level were chosen yesterday, and the selection at municipal level will take place tomorrow. Under the *jamahiri* system of direct democracy, BPCs centred on one locality select a five-member Secretariat. BPCs comprising two localities choose a team of six, and BPCs based on three or more localities select a Secretariat comprising two members per locality. At the municipal level, Secretariats are chosen from and by all the BPC Secretariats in each municipality, with the condition that none of those selected are Secretaries or Assistant Secretaries of Basic People's Congresses.

□ **28th March:** Muammer Qadhafi holds a meeting in Tripoli with officers of the Libyan Arab armed forces, as part of the celebrations to mark the 13th anniversary of the evacuation of British military bases from Libyan soil.

□ **1st April:** Muammer Qadhafi attends a meeting of the Municipal People's Committee and the General People's Committee of Benghazi. Talks focused on February's decision by the General People's Congress to scale down the number of foreign workers in the Jamahiriya, and to increase productivity in the economy.

Jamahiriya economic news

□ **10th April:** Tripoli radio announces that amongst the work already completed on the Tripoli port expansion project are two light-houses and the main outer breakwater.

□ **11th April:** The Libyan Arab-Indian Joint Commission ends its fourth Session in New Delhi. The Jamahiriya was reportedly seeking increased Indian involvement in its development programme, particularly in the construction of irrigation dams and the expansion of agriculture and animal husbandry.

□ **12th April:** A report in the International Herald Tribune shows that Libya last year came 14th in the league of countries exporting to West Germany. In 1982 the Jamahiriya supplied goods worth DM 7.2 billion, slightly less than the DM 7.4 billion in 1981.



A hold up in the American style

THE GREEN BOOK

BY MUAMMAR AL QADHAFI

PART 1

The solution of the
problem of Democracy

PART 2

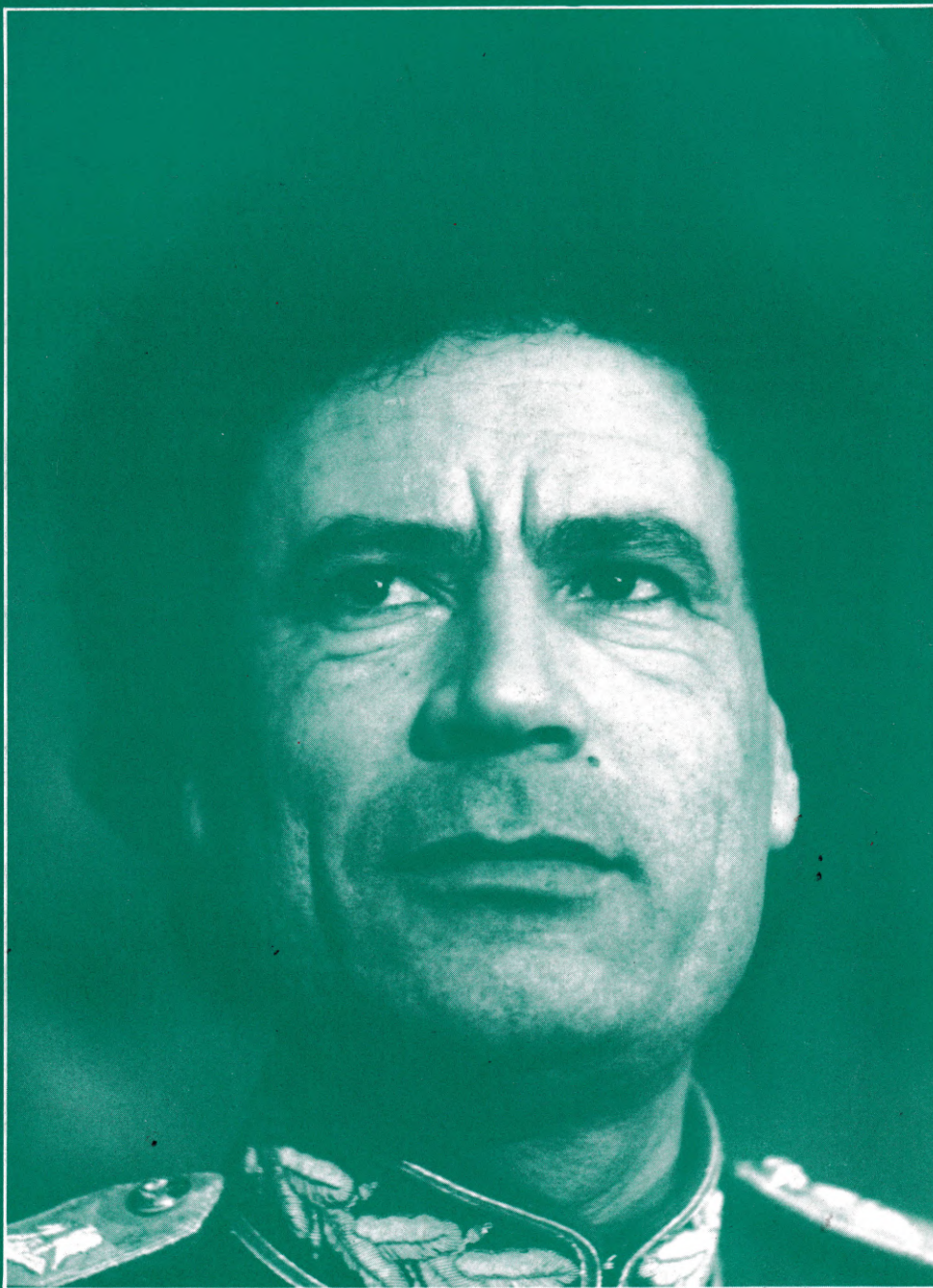
The solution of the
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PART 3

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